

The discovery, however, has now been made by my esteemed correspondent, Mr. Jacob Stauffer, of Mount Joy, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He has recently sent me fresh specimens of *Comandra umbellata*, with its elongated and woody subterranean stems, giving off numerous roots, the branches of which are often expanded at their tips into a small tubercle or sucker, which is implanted by its disc-like surface upon the bark of adjacent roots, principally of shrubs. The foster-plants, in the specimens communicated, are Blueberries and Huckleberries (*Vaccinium vacillans* and *Gaylussacia resinosa*). Mr. Stauffer's specimens are accompanied by a neat drawing, illustrating the mode of attachment. This I would gladly forward for the engraver: but it will suffice, perhaps, for the present to say, that the attachment is similar to that so clearly exhibited by Mr. Mitten, in the plate which accompanies his article; only that the rootlets in *Comandra* arise from subterranean stems, and the suckers, so far as I have examined, do not appear to penetrate the foster-root deeper than the surface of its wood.

Since the above was written and in type, I have received from Mr. Stauffer the announcement of his discovery of the parasitism of *Gerardia flava*, accompanied by a drawing which exhibits it, and a specimen which plainly shows the attachment. The numerous branches of the root are not only attached by discs or suckers to the bark of the root of the foster-plant (in this case either white oak or witch hazel), but also are implanted upon each other, forming parasitical anastomoses.—*Silliman's Journal*, Sept. 1853.

RARE IRISH MOLLUSCA.

To the Editors of the Annals of Natural History.

Windsor Lodge, Monkstown, co. Dublin,
September 30, 1853.

GENTLEMEN,—Having had a few days' dredging last month off this coast, will you kindly record for me, at your earliest convenience, the obtaining of the following Mollusca? Those species marked with an asterisk I believe to be new to the fauna of this county.

**Corbula rosea*. Off Dublin Bay.

Lyonsia Norvegica. Killiney Bay and Dalkey Sound.

**Thracia distorta*. Dalkey Sound.

Cochlodesma pratense. Killiney Bay and Dalkey Sound.

Solecuretus coarctatus. Same localities as the last species.

**Astarte elliptica*. Dalkey Sound.

— *sulcata*, var. *Scotica*. Same locality as the last species.

**Lepton squamosum*. Dalkey Sound and Killiney Bay.

**Nucula radiata*. Dalkey Sound.

* — *tenuis*. Same locality.

Leda caudata. Killiney Bay and Dalkey Sound.

Trophon Barvicensis. Dalkey Sound.

Mangelia septangularis. Same locality.

Phylina scabra. Same locality.

I am, Gentlemen, yours obediently,

WILLIAM WHITE WALPOLE.